

U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Illinois

A. Courtney Cox, U.S. Attorney

April 2010



A Message from the U.S. Attorney

SERVICE

I recently attended the U.S. Attorney Conference in Arizona. Attending the conference were 93 U.S. Attorneys from 94 Districts. While the programs at the conference were excellent, the aspect of the conference which I most enjoyed was the opportunity to meet and talk with my colleagues. I returned home with a number of excellent ideas that came from discussions in informal settings.

One of the most striking features of the U.S. Attorney community is the diversity. We not only cross gender, racial, and age lines, but our backgrounds are often strikingly different. Some U.S. Attorneys are career criminal prosecutors or career civil attorneys. Others, like myself, come from a private civil or criminal practice. Then there are regional differences. We are truly representative of our entire nation, from every state and territory. That means that we have a wide variety of accents, local customs, and personal interests.

Yet, in spite of our many differences, there is one bond that holds all of us together . . . dedication to serving the citizens of our Districts and the United States. When a group of U.S. Attorneys sit together and talk, the conversation almost always is about one thing, how to

serve our Districts better by making them safer and more secure for the citizens we serve.

In truth, I believe that our diversity is a source of strength. Because we are often very different in many ways, we can bring a variety of viewpoints and ideas to bear on an issue. At the same time, we are working toward common goals. This is really the essence of our democracy: diverse people coming together for the common good.

The Great Seal of the United States, and our coins, contain a Latin phrase that captures this idea perfectly--E Pluribus Unum . . . out of many, one. I have seen this concept in action in our District with the Violent Crime Task Force. Local, state, and federal law enforcement work closely with federal and state prosecutors and probation. This works because we have a common goal . . . serving the communities by reducing violent crime.

Some people say we should put aside our differences for the common good. I prefer to say we should use the richness that comes from diversity as a source of strength to reach a common goal. The greatest honor in being a United States Attorney is having the opportunity to stand with others to help our fellow citizens. In short, to serve.

A. Courtney Cox

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Link to our website:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ils/index.html>

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March 16, 2010: LECC Ron Shownes attended the Southern Criminal Justice Training Program and the meeting of the Illinois State Sheriffs Association Southern Zone. He introduced Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent Richard Box who presented a Domestic Violence Crime Initiative outreach to local law enforcement by the FBI.



March 22, 2010: LECC Shownes gave a presentation on behalf of the Southern Criminal Justice Training Program, in Carbondale, Illinois, to a class of officers attending state-mandated firearms training.



March 31, 2010: LECC Shownes made a presentation to the Southwestern Illinois Law Enforcement Police Academy outlining programs and initiatives of the United States Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois.

April 6, 2010:

The Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee and the Mobile Training Unit 15 sponsored a program on Violent Encounters, a study of felonious assaults on law enforcement officers. The program was held at John A. Logan College in Carterville, Illinois, with more than 50 officers in attendance.



April 15, 2010: The Collinsville Police Department will host an eight hour course titled "Basic Computer Networking and Internet Topics for First Responders II." To register call (618) 277-1550.



****Free Law Enforcement Training**** **"Basic Computer Networking & Internet Topics for First Responders II"**



Course held at the Collinsville Police Department

This eight-hour program is for the **First Responder** who arrives at a crime scene and is tasked with seizing and securing electronic evidence. This course is designed to introduce officers to the investigative value associated with networks & the internet. Officers will obtain the basic knowledge and skills to recognize networking and internet topics for law enforcement personnel. Areas addressed in this course include the networking hardware, software, ethics, and network examination standards. The course will also address legal principals regarding computer crimes and digital investigative units. Future computer investigations and cyber terrorism are addressed in this course including; **"Cloud Computing," "Data Centers," "NGI-New Generation Internet," "Intranet & VOIP," "Convergence Technology," and "Private Security Objectives & Law Enforcement."**

Officers will receive:

Training Certificate, Networking Resource/ Literature Guide CD and Electronic Evidence Field Collection Kit

Topics discussed in this course include:

- Describe the different cyber crime situations where computer forensic investigation would be appropriate in a network environment. Describe basic network configuration and the types of evidence investigators may encounter with computer networks and the Internet.
- Describe network data, discuss how large amounts of data are usually broken down to small packets and transferred over a network environment (I.P. tracking, firewalls, virus protection, etc.).
- Describe software (Neo Trace, Net Tumbler, etc.) and forensic ethical standards, as well as legal and privacy issues.
- Describe and demonstrate how to identify, investigate, capture, analyze, preserve, and process computer network evidence. Follow guidelines from the National Institute of Justice, RCFL, and Secret Service.
- Describe the need to only use specialists & networking professionals in the collection of network related evidence.
- Describe and demonstrate acquisition, collection, seizure, and safekeeping of storage media and how it relates to chain of custody requirements. On site enforcement activities with "E-Kit Field Collection Materials."
- Describe law enforcement assistance available to first responders with networking or cyber criminals: Secret Service Electronic Crimes Task Forces, Metropolitan Federal Identity Theft Task Force, High Tech Criminal Investigators Association, FBI Cart Response Unit and National Security Administration.
- Utilize common forensic tools in the electronic discovery process with subpoenas, search warrant, and consent to search. Describe the "chain of custody" as it relates to the proper collection and documentation of networking evidence.

Course Date: Thursday, April 15th, 2010 8:30am - 4:30pm *(Seating limited to 30 officers per class)*

Course Location: Collinsville Police Department 200 Clay Street
Collinsville, IL 62234 **To register call:** (618) 277-1550 or online @ www.silec.org

This project is supported by Homeland Security funds awarded to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board by the Illinois Terrorism Task Force.

April 22, 2010: The Collinsville Police Department, in conjunction with federal and state agencies, is hosting a "Fraud Prevention Seminar" on Thursday, April 22nd, at 6:00 p.m., at the Collinsville Senior Center.

Fraud Prevention Seminar



Topics will include:



How to obtain your **free credit report** and other free resources available to Illinois residents

The "Do Not Call List"

Security and Investment Scams

How thieves steal your identity and what you can do to prevent it

"Skimming" what to look for

The presentation and information will be provided from the **Attorney General's Office, the Assistant Director for Investor Education & Protection with the Illinois Office of the Secretary of State, the Law Enforcement Coordinator from the Department of Justice, the Internal Revenue Service, and the fraud investigator from FCB Banks.**



Door prizes donated by local banks and businesses will be awarded to attendees.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP by calling 618-222-8665 or email sphegley@fcbbanks.com.



Refreshments will be served

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

HEROIN

On March 18, 2010, **CAROLYN REA**, a/k/a "**Carolyn Rose**," age 37, of Cave-In-Rock, Illinois, and **MELANIE A. HAAS**, age 23, of Anna, Illinois, were indicted by a federal grand jury in East St. Louis, Illinois, in a one-count indictment charging them with conspiracy to distribute heroin.

The violation is alleged to have taken place between December 2008 and February 2010 in Union County. The offense carries a penalty of five to 40 years' imprisonment, four years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$2,000,000.

REA and **HAAS** made their initial appearances in federal court on March 22, 2010. **REA** is being held without bond pending jury trial, which is currently scheduled for May 24, 2010. **HAAS** is currently being held on a cash bond.

The investigation was conducted by the Union County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and Murphysboro Police Department, in cooperation with Union County State's Attorney Tyler Edmonds. The investigation was being conducted as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods DRAGUN Team Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On April 1, 2010, **HECTOR S. BARNES**, age 32, of Centralia, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

BARNES was sentenced to 170 months' imprisonment, four years' supervised release, and a \$750 fine. **BARNES** had previously pled guilty to a two-count federal indictment charging him with two counts of distribution of heroin.

The investigation was conducted by the Centralia Police Department, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Police, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County State's Attorney's Office, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service, and other law enforcement agencies pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On April 9, 2010, **STEVEN D. DAVIS**, a/k/a "**Black**," age 34, of Gary, Indiana, pled guilty in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois, to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute heroin.

The violation took place between June 2009 and August 13, 2009, in Jackson County, Illinois.

The offense carries a penalty of ten years to life imprisonment, eight years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000. **DAVIS** is currently being held without bond pending a July 17, 2010, sentencing hearing.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and the Murphysboro Police Department pursuant to those agencies' participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. In addition, the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office assisted throughout the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

HEROIN OVERDOSE DEATH

On March 22, 2010, **TAVIS D. DOYLE**, age 41, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was indicted and arraigned on a two-count indictment, charging one count of unlawful distribution of heroin, resulting in death, and one count of unlawful distribution of heroin, resulting in serious bodily injury.

DOYLE was arraigned in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis and was ordered detained without bail until his trial which is currently scheduled for May 3, 2010. If convicted, **DOYLE** could face a potential maximum sentence of life imprisonment, up to five years' supervised release, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a \$100 special assessment.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Glen Carbon Police Department, and Jerseyville Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Garrison.

On March 22, 2010, **CODY J. GRANTHAM**, age 19, of Fairview Heights, Illinois, pled guilty in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, to a federal indictment charging one count of unlawful distribution of heroin, resulting in death.

GRANTHAM is scheduled to be sentenced in U.S. District Court in East St. Louis on July 30, 2010. **GRANTHAM** faces a possible maximum sentence of life imprisonment, up to five years' supervised release, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a \$100 special assessment.

According to the indictment and to evidence presented at his change-of-plea hearing, **GRANTHAM** distributed heroin to a person in Fairview Heights on October 27, 2009, who ingested the

heroin and died on the same day. The victim was 21 years old at the time of his death.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Metropolitan Enforcement Group of Southwestern Illinois unit of the Illinois State Police, and Fairview Heights Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Garrison.

COCAINE

On February 17, 2010, **LARRY D. LEE, a/k/a "Papa,"** age 28, of Carbondale, Illinois, was indicted by a federal grand jury in East St. Louis, Illinois, in a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine.

The violation is alleged to have taken place between November 2006 and February 2009 in Jackson and Union Counties in Illinois.

The offense carries a penalty of ten years to life imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000.

LEE made his initial appearance in federal court on March 16, 2010, and was ordered detained without bond pending a jury trial, which is currently scheduled for May 18, 2010.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and Murphysboro Police Department, in conjunction with the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, Carbondale Police Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration. In addition, the Jackson County State's Attorney's Office assisted during the investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

On March 11, 2010, **JERAMIE WALLACE**, age 30, of Centralia, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **WALLACE** received 169 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and a \$750 fine.

WALLACE had previously pled guilty to an indictment charging two counts of distribution of crack cocaine.

The investigation was conducted by the Centralia Police Department, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Police, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County State's Attorney's Office, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service, and other law enforcement agencies, pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, and federal, state and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On March 18, 2010, **FREDERICK L. WEBSTER**, age 48, of Centralia, Illinois, was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in East St. Louis, Illinois.

WEBSTER is charged with two counts of distribution of crack cocaine (counts 1 and 2) and one count of possession with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine (count 3).

Counts 1 and 2 each carry a possible penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000. Count 3 carries a possible penalty of

ten years to life imprisonment, at least five years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Centralia Police Department, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Police, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County State's Attorney's Office, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service, and other law enforcement agencies pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On March 18, 2010, **JAMES M. STROWDER**, age 19, of Centralia, Illinois, was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in East St. Louis, Illinois. **STROWDER** was charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine and two counts of distribution of crack cocaine.

The conspiracy carries a possible penalty of ten years to life imprisonment, at least five years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000. Each of the distribution counts carries a possible penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Centralia Police Department, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Police, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County State's Attorney's

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

Office, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service, and other law enforcement agencies pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On March 18, 2010, **ROSEMARY L. BARNES**, age 50, of Centralia, Illinois, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in East St. Louis, Illinois. **BARNES** was charged with two counts of distribution of crack cocaine.

Each count carries a possible penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Centralia Police Department, Clinton County Sheriff's Department, Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Police, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Marion County State's Attorney's Office, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshals Service, and other law enforcement agencies pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On March 22, 2010, **RAYMOND E. BLYTHE**, a/k/a "Bud" and "Ray-Bud," age 26, of Carbondale, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

BLYTHE, who had previously pled guilty to a

one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, was sentenced to 135 months' imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and a \$400 fine.

The violation took place between August 2006 and August 2008 in Jackson and Williamson Counties in Illinois. Three co-defendants have already been sentenced for their involvement in the crack cocaine conspiracy. One co-defendant has pled guilty and is awaiting sentencing. Three co-defendants have pled not guilty and are currently awaiting jury trial which is scheduled for August 10, 2010.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police, Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, Carbondale Police Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On March 23, 2010, **PATRICK D. BURTON**, a/k/a "D-Bone," age 27, of Cahokia, Illinois, pled guilty to two counts of distribution of five grams or more of crack cocaine. The violations occurred on February 6 and June 4, 2008.

Each count carries with it a potential penalty of ten years to life imprisonment, at least eight years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000. Sentencing is currently scheduled for July 9, 2010, in East St. Louis, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

On March 23, 2010, **KINDRICK JOHNSON**, age 22, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis.

JOHNSON, who had previously pled guilty on November 24, 2009, to two counts of distribution of crack cocaine, was sentenced to 60 months' imprisonment, four years' supervised release, a \$500 fine, and a \$200 special assessment. The offenses occurred on July 15 and July 23, 2009, in St. Clair County in Illinois.

The Investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Deirdre A. Durborow.

On March 29, 2010, **TRAVIS L. WOOLEY**, a/k/a "T-Low," age 23, of Carbondale, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

WOOLEY had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, was sentenced to 132 months' imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and was fined \$300.

The violation took place between August 2006 and August 2008, in Jackson and Williamson Counties. Four co-defendants have previously been sentenced for their involvement in the crack cocaine conspiracy. One co-defendant has pled guilty and is awaiting sentencing. Three co-defendants have pled not guilty and are currently awaiting jury trial, which is currently scheduled for August 10, 2010.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police, Southern Illinois

Enforcement Group, Carbondale Police Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration. In addition, the Jackson County States Attorney's Office assisted throughout the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On April 6, 2010, **KENYA A. GANER**, a/k/a "K.G.," age 30, of Murphysboro, Illinois, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Benton, Illinois, in a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine. The violation is alleged to have taken place between May 2007 and October 2009 in Jackson and Williamson Counties in Illinois.

The offense carries a penalty of ten years to life imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000.

GANER made his initial appearance in federal court on April 8, 2010, and is being held without bond pending an April 13, 2010, detention hearing.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, and Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On April 6, 2010, **VALENTIN C. SANCHEZ**, age 29, of Robinson, Illinois, **BRIAN SOSTENES**, age 20, of Chicago, Illinois, **ROBERT D. MALDONADO**, age 29, of Stoy, Illinois, and **WESLEY A. KNIGHT**, age 24, of Robinson, Illinois, were charged in an

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

eight-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Benton, Illinois.

Count 1 charges that from 2006 to on or about July 19, 2009, in Crawford County, Illinois, **SANCHEZ, SOSTENES, MALDONADO, and KNIGHT** knowingly and intentionally conspired with each other, and with other persons known and unknown to the grand jury, to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute, cocaine. The total amount of cocaine involved in the conspiracy was 500 grams or more.

Count 2 charges that on July 19, 2009, in Crawford County, **SANCHEZ** knowingly and intentionally possessed with the intent to distribute cocaine.

Count 3 charges that on July 14, 2008, in Crawford County, **SOSTENES** knowingly and intentionally distributed cocaine.

Count 4 charges that on July 30, 2008, in Crawford County, **SOSTENES** knowingly and intentionally distributed cocaine.

Count 5 charges that on March 28, 2009, in Crawford County, **SOSTENES** and **MALDONADO** knowingly and intentionally distributed cocaine.

Count 6 charges that on April 24, 2009, in Crawford County, **SOSTENES** and **MALDONADO** knowingly and intentionally distributed cocaine.

Count 7 charges that on May 4, 2009, in Crawford County, **KNIGHT** knowingly and intentionally distributed cocaine.

Count 8 charges that on July 14, 2009, in Crawford County, **KNIGHT** knowingly and intentionally distributed cocaine.

Count 1 carries a possible penalty of five to 40 years' imprisonment, at least four years' su-

pervised release, and a fine of up to \$2,000,000. All other counts carry a possible penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Crawford County Sheriff's Office, Robinson Police Department, Crawford County State's Attorney's Office, and other law enforcement agencies pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On April 8, 2010, **ACE HART, II**, age 31, of Caseyville, Illinois, pled guilty to three counts of distribution of cocaine and one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine. The violations took place between September 2007 and May 2009 in St. Clair County in Illinois.

The potential penalties for the conspiracy charge are five to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000. The distribution charges carry up to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000. Sentencing is scheduled for July 10, 2010, in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Fairmont City Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ranley R. Killian.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

COCAINE AND METHAMPHETAMINE

On April 1, 2010, **RANDALL INDERMARK**, age 47, of Collinsville, Illinois, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine and methamphetamine and three counts of distribution of cocaine.

The violations took place between September 2007 and May 2009, in Caseyville, Illinois, and elsewhere in the Southern District of Illinois. The potential penalties for each of the charges is up to 20 years' imprisonment, at least three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$1,000,000.

The investigation was conducted under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. Participating agencies included the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Fairmont City Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ranley R. Killian.

COCAINE AND FIREARM CHARGES

On March 19, 2010, **ELREESE JOHNSON**, age 61, of East St. Louis, Illinois, pled guilty in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, to a two-count indictment charging him with possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine and felon in possession of a firearm.

JOHNSON is currently scheduled to be sentenced on June 25, 2010. **JOHNSON** faces a sentence of five to 40 years' imprisonment, at least four years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$2,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel T. Kapsak.

On March 30, 2010, **SCOTT LEE JOHNSON**, age 48, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

JOHNSON received life imprisonment and was ordered to pay a \$2,250,000 fine and a special assessment of \$300. The court also ordered **JOHNSON** to forfeit his interest in real property located in East St. Louis and Washington Park, Illinois, in six firearms, and in a total of \$391,400 in U.S. currency. **JOHNSON** is the former owner of the Best Fish House in East St. Louis.

JOHNSON was convicted on October 8, 2009, after a five-day jury trial, of conspiracy to distribute cocaine; distribution of cocaine; and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The offenses occurred between 2004 and **JOHNSON's** arrest on April 4, 2008. The court determined at sentencing that during the course of the conspiracy **JOHNSON** distributed at least 1,500 kilograms of cocaine in and around East St. Louis and Washington Park in Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Donald S. Boyce and Kelly B. Lake.

METHAMPHETAMINE

On March 15, 2010, **JON B. CALCATERRA**, age 32, of Herrin, Illinois, was sentenced in the

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois. **CALCATERRA** was sentenced to 70 months' imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and a \$300 fine.

CALCATERRA had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine. The violation took place between December 2005 and May 21, 2009, in Jackson, Williamson, and Franklin Counties in Illinois. Four co-defendants have previously been sentenced for their roles in the methamphetamine conspiracy. Four other co-defendants have pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Williamson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team, and COMIT Drug Task Force, pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On March 18, 2010, **MARTIN W. HARGET**, age 50, and **JASON M. KENDRICK**, age 35, both of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in East St. Louis, Illinois, in a one-count superseding indictment, charging them with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

The violation is alleged to have taken place between in February 2007 and November 11, 2009, in Union, Alexander, and St. Clair Counties in Illinois. The offense carries a penalty of ten years to life imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$4,000,000.

KENDRICK made his initial appearance in federal court on April 6, 2010, and was ordered held without bond pending jury trial, which is currently scheduled for June 7, 2010. **HARGET** had previously been ordered held without bond.

The investigation was conducted by the Union County Sheriff's Office and Jackson County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with Union County State's Attorney Tyler Edmonds. The investigation was conducted as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods DRAGUN Team Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On April 6, 2010, **JANA S. RIGG**, age 50, of Olney, Illinois, was charged in a one-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Benton, Illinois.

The indictment charges that from August 2008 through January 2010, **RIGG** knowingly conspired with others known and unknown to the grand jury to manufacture methamphetamine. The amount of methamphetamine involved in the conspiracy was more than 50 grams. The charge carries a possible penalty of five to 40 years' imprisonment, at least four years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$2,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office, Olney Police Department, Richland County State's Attorney's Office, and other law enforcement agencies pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

On April 8, 2010, **JASON A. HANSON**, age 27, of Logan, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois. **HANSON**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 300 months' imprisonment, five years' supervised release, and a \$300 fine.

The violation took place between December 2005 and May 21, 2009, in Jackson, Williamson, and Franklin Counties in Illinois. Five co-defendants have previously been sentenced for their role in the methamphetamine conspiracy. Three co-defendants have pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Williamson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team, and COMIT Drug Task Force, pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On April 8, 2010, **JENNIFER K. DAVIS**, age 29, of Wolf Lake, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois.

DAVIS, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging her with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 57 months' imprisonment, four years' supervised release, and a \$200 fine.

The violation took place between December 2005 and May 21, 2009, in Jackson, Williamson, and Franklin Counties in Illinois. One co-defendant has pled guilty and is awaiting sen-

tencing. One co-defendant has pled not guilty and is awaiting a May 10, 2010, jury trial. One co-defendant is currently a fugitive.

The investigation was conducted by the Union County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and Murphysboro Police Department, in cooperation with Union County State's Attorney Tyler Edmonds and Jackson County State's Attorney Michael Wepsiec. The investigation was conducted as part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods DRAGUN Team Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

MARIJUANA

On April 9, 2010, **RICKY GRIFFIN, SR.**, age 43, of Collinsville, Illinois, was sentenced to 292 months' imprisonment, ten years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay a mandatory special assessment of \$100 and a \$1,000 fine.

The conspiracy operated between 2000 until approximately March 2008. A federal grand jury returned an indictment alleging conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute marijuana. **GRIFFIN** pled guilty to the charge in the indictment on June 12, 2009.

The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel T. Kapsak.

SMUGGLING MARIJUANA INTO PRISON

On April 9, 2010, **COREY LOUIS HINES**, age

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38, an inmate at the U.S. Penitentiary at Marion, Illinois (USP-Marion), was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, to 144 months' imprisonment for his role in smuggling marijuana and other contraband into the prison. **HINES** was convicted in October 2009 following a two-day jury trial of one count of possessing a prohibited object (marijuana) in a federal prison and one count of possessing with intent to distribute marijuana. The offenses were committed from September 15, 2007, through September 21, 2007.

Evidence introduced at trial and his sentencing hearing showed that correctional officers at USP-Marion caught **HINES** attempting to smuggle marijuana into the prison in September 2009 through the visiting room by having another individual bring it into the prison and pass it to him there. The evidence further showed that **HINES** admitted to agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that during the previous two-month period he had received marijuana, heroin, and tobacco from his visitors and had successfully introduced those items of contraband into the prison to sell to other inmates.

In addition to the term of imprisonment, **HINES** was ordered to pay the United States a special assessment of \$200. The 12-year term of imprisonment was imposed consecutively to the 95-month term of imprisonment **HINES** was already serving for his February 2006 conviction for conspiracy to commit social security fraud and aggravated identity theft from the Eastern District of Missouri.

The investigation into the case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.

GUILTY OF 11 BANK ROBBERIES

On March 17, 2010, **CHAD SCHAFFNER**, age 38, of Indianapolis, Indiana, entered pleas of guilty in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee in Greeneville, Tennessee, to a total of 11 counts of robbery, which included nine banks, one credit union, and one retail store. Additionally, **SCHAFFNER** pled guilty to 11 counts of use of a firearm during these robberies.

Details of the guilty pleas by **SCHAFFNER** are outlined in the six plea agreements on file in the U.S. District Court in Greeneville, Tennessee.

These guilty pleas are in addition to the ones entered by **SCHAFFNER** in December 2009 to two counts of bank robbery and two counts of use of a firearm during and in relation to a violent crime for the armed robberies of the Community National Bank in Jefferson City, Tennessee, and the First Tennessee Bank in Morristown, Tennessee.

The most recent guilty pleas were to robberies committed in the Western District of North Carolina, Eastern District of North Carolina, District of South Carolina, Western District of Kentucky, Southern District of Indiana, and Southern District of Illinois.

SCHAFFNER is scheduled to be sentenced on December 8, 2010, in the U.S. District Court in Greeneville, Tennessee.

After a nationwide manhunt, **SCHAFFNER** was arrested in Missouri where he admitted robbing the Community National Bank and First Tennessee Bank to agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). He told the agents that he began robbing banks to support his drug addiction. **SCHAFFNER** also admitted to robbing banks in Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Illinois, and Indiana.

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SCHAFFNER further admitted to using and brandishing two different firearms during the course of these robberies, one of which was recovered from a motel room **SCHAFFNER** occupied. Both robberies were recorded on video.

SCHAFFNER's girlfriend, Linda Christina Davis, pled guilty on December 7, 2009, in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee in Greeneville, Tennessee, to accessory after the fact to the two Tennessee bank robberies. Davis was arrested with **SCHAFFNER** in Missouri. She confessed to allowing **SCHAFFNER** to use her car after the Morristown and Jefferson County robberies and renting motel rooms in various states to allow him to avoid apprehension. Complete details of her involvement can be found in her plea agreement on file with the U.S. District Court in Greeneville. Davis faces up to 12½ years' imprisonment for her role. Davis is scheduled to be sentenced on August 9, 2010, in the U.S. District Court in Greeneville.

The investigations were conducted by the FBI with assistance from local authorities in the other states. The Morristown Police Department and Jefferson City Police Department worked with the FBI on the Tennessee cases.

Assistant United States Attorney Rob Reeves represented the United States in the U.S. District Court in Greeneville, Tennessee, and was assisted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas Murphy of the Eastern District of North Carolina; Assistant United States Attorney Don Gast of the Western District of North Carolina; Assistant United States Attorney Alston Badger of the District of South Carolina; Assistant United States Attorney Randy Ream of the Western District of Kentucky; Assistant United States Attorney Bradley Shepard of the Southern District of Indiana; and Assistant United States Attorney

Deirdre A. Durborow of the Southern District of Illinois.

BANK ROBBERY

On April 8, 2010, **FREDERICK G. GOOSBY**, age 37, of Marion, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois.

GOOSBY, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment, charging him with bank robbery, was sentenced to 196 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment and \$3,700 in restitution to the First National Bank and Trust of Murphysboro.

The violation took place on August 3, 2009, in Murphysboro, Illinois. Because **GOOSBY** was on supervised release for a previous federal drug conviction at the time of the bank robbery, his supervised release was revoked and he was also ordered to serve a 44-month sentence, consecutive to the 196 month sentence imposed on the new offense.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, and the Illinois State Police Crime Lab, in cooperation with other area local law enforcement agencies, and Jackson County State's Attorney Michael Wepsiec.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

FEDERAL INMATE PLED GUILTY TO ESCAPE

On March 23, 2010, **KEITH ALLEN DUNAGAN**, age 29, of Benton, Illinois, pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with escape

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and attempt to escape from a Marion facility of the Bureau of Prisons in which he was lawfully confined by virtue of a sentence imposed by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois.

DUNAGAN was serving a sentence after being convicted for violation of the terms and conditions of his supervised release which were imposed pursuant to his previous convictions and sentences for a drug distribution and health care fraud conviction.

DUNAGAN escaped from custody by walking away from the H-Group facility in Marion on January 18, 2010. He was arrested and taken back into custody on January 23, 2010, in Marion, Illinois, following a traffic stop by a Marion police officer.

DUNAGAN was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service and will remain detained pending his sentencing which is currently scheduled for July 19, 2010, in the U.S. District Court in Benton.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Marshals Service.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael C. Carr.

FIREARMS

On April 1, 2010, **DAVID M. HOFFARTH, JR.**, age 19, of Belleville, Illinois, was named in a three-count criminal complaint charging him with stealing a firearm from a federal firearm licensee's premises; being a felon in possession of a firearm; and possession of a stolen firearm. **HOFFARTH** made his first appearance in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis on April 1, 2010.

He was ordered detained pending further proceeding of the Court. The maximum penalties that can be imposed for each violation are ten years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, three years' supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment.

According to information provided to the court, members of the Belleville Police Department responded to a burglar alarm at a business at approximately 1:06 a.m. on March 30, 2010. The police arrested **HOFFARTH**, in possession of several firearms. Police also recovered other firearms near where **HOFFARTH** was arrested.

The case was investigated by members of the Belleville Police Department and agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen B. Clark.

FELON IN POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

On March 18, 2010, **WILLIAM SHERMAN KIRKPATRICK**, age 36, of Woodhull, Illinois, was re-sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, following remand from the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, to a term of 78 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, a \$100 fine, and a \$100 special assessment.

KIRKPATRICK pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon on January 6, 2009. The offense occurred on December 8, 2008, when **KIRKPATRICK** possessed an E.A.A. brand Witness Model 38 SA caliber semi-automatic pistol, and an Enfield brand, No. 4 MKI model, .303 caliber bolt action rifle. He was originally sentenced on May 21, 2009.

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The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and Glen Carbon Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Stephen B. Clark and Angela Scott.

On April 2, 2010, **MELVIN L. DIXON**, age 51, of Washington Park, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **DIXON** had previously pled guilty on August 13, 2009, to a one-count indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. **DIXON** was sentenced to 96 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and a \$300 fine.

The violation took place on or about August 24, 2008, in St. Clair County in Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald S. Boyce.

On April 8, 2010, **THOMAS BRITT PARTAIN**, age 50, of Raleigh, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois.

PARTAIN, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count charging him with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and a \$300 fine. The violation took place on May 26, 2009, in Saline County.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Marshals Service, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Saline County Sheriff's Department Drug Task

Force, Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. In addition, the Saline County State's Attorney's Office assisted throughout the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On April 9, 2010, **SERLE L. THOMAS**, age 38, of Cairo, Illinois, pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with unlawful possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon. The offense occurred on October 24, 2009, when **THOMAS** was found to be in possession of a firearm following a traffic stop.

The charge carries a sentence of up to ten years' imprisonment, up to three years' supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine. **THOMAS** remains in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending sentencing which has been scheduled for July 19, 2010, in the U.S. District Court at Benton, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Cairo Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael C. Carr.

On April 9, 2010, **JAMES K. GOODPASTURE**, age 47, of Cobden, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **GOODPASTURE**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, was sentenced to 108 months' imprisonment, three

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years' supervised release, and a \$400 fine. The firearm offense took place in May 2007 in Cobden.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, the Union County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

FAILURE TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER

On April 2, 2010, **CHRISTOPHER J. TUCKER**, age 27, of Madison County, Illinois, was sentenced to 21 months' imprisonment, five years' supervised release, a \$100 fine, and a \$100 special assessment for failure to register as a sex offender in violation of federal law. The violation occurred between September 16, 2008, and approximately May 3, 2009, in Madison County and elsewhere.

The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Walsh Act), enacted on July 27, 2006, created a new comprehensive national system and set of requirements for sex offender registration and notification and requires that sex offenders register in the jurisdictions in which they live, work or go to school.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Marshals Service. The U.S. Marshals Service is the nation's oldest federal law enforcement agency and serves as the nation's primary fugitive hunting organization. In addition, the U.S. Marshals have three principal responsibilities under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act: to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial

authorities in the location and apprehension of non-compliant and fugitive sex offenders; to investigate violations of the Act for federal prosecution; and to assist in the identification and location of sex offenders relocated as a result of a major disaster. For more information about the U.S. Marshals Service, please visit the website at www.usmarshals.gov or contact the U.S. Marshals Service at 1-800-336-0102.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Suzanne M. Garrison.

CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

On March 11, 2010, **JOSEPH L. BROWN**, age 27, of Belleville, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, following his convictions for conspiracy to interfere with the federally-protected housing rights of African-American victims; interference with African-American victims because of their occupation of a dwelling through the threatened use of force; and making a false statement to a federal law enforcement officer.

BROWN pled guilty to the offenses on October 15, 2008. **BROWN** was sentenced to 78 months' imprisonment to be served consecutively to his current state sentence, three years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay a \$250 fine, a \$225 special assessment, and \$140 in restitution to a victim of the offense.

The violations occurred on March 29, 2003, in Collinsville, Illinois, when **BROWN** and another conspired to frighten and intimidate several individuals, two of whom were African-American, by spray painting racial threats and epithets on the exterior of the individuals' home. Before the vandalism occurred, the defendant had tried to organize a group of young people into forming a

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racial group or gang. **BROWN** told others that he was angry that African-Americans were living on the same street that he lived and that a white woman lived there with the African-Americans. When interviewed about the incident by the FBI on January 22, 2008, **BROWN** lied by claiming not to know anything about the racial vandalism committed in March 2003, by claiming that he was not involved in the incident, and by claiming that he did not know anyone who might have been involved in the incident.

U.S. Attorney Cox stated, "It is my hope that this prosecution and sentence will send a clear message that illegal conduct designed to threaten or intimidate members of minority groups or any attempt to interfere with their free exercise of rights guaranteed to all Americans will not be tolerated in the Southern District of Illinois."

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy Chief Bobbi Bernstein and Trial Attorney Kevonne Small of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice and Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.

On March 30, 2010, **ANTONIO C. MCWHERTER**, age 47, of Belleville, Illinois, pled guilty to an information charging him with deprivation of civil rights.

The violation occurred on January 30, 2009, in East St. Louis, Illinois, when **MCWHERTER**, while acting under color of law as a police officer for the East St. Louis Police Department, struck an individual in the mouth without legal justification. The assault occurred in the booking area of

the East St. Louis Police Department. As part of the plea agreement in the case, **MCWHERTER** agreed to immediately resign from the police department and not to seek other employment in law enforcement or with the military in a position that would require him to supervise, care for, direct or manage soldiers, detainees, or prisoners.

According to U.S. Attorney Cox, "The citizens of East St. Louis and the rest of the Southern District of Illinois have the right to expect competent law enforcement free from illegal or unconstitutional conduct by police officers. While the overwhelming majority of police officers in this district do a tremendous job under sometimes difficult circumstances, the U.S. Attorney's Office will vigorously prosecute the few who break the law."

The offense of conviction carries with it a penalty of up to one year imprisonment, a fine of up to \$100,000, or both, and up to one year supervised release. Sentencing is currently scheduled for May 26, 2010, in East St. Louis, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Department of Justice Trial Attorneys Patricia Sumner and Jeff Blumberg and Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.

DOG FIGHTING CONSPIRACY CHARGED

On March 18, 2010, a federal grand jury in East St. Louis, Illinois, returned an indictment charging **JUDIOUS KIZEART**, age 41, of Springfield, Illinois; **BRENT CASH**, age 31, of Eldon, Missouri; **DARRYL MADISON**, age 28, of St. Louis, Missouri; **THADIOUS PAGE**, age 33, of Fairview

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Heights, Illinois; **TERRILL CLARK**, age 33, of Lithonia, Georgia; **MICHAEL WILLIAMS**, age 29, of Red Bud, Illinois; and **GARY PAYNE**, age 48, of St. Louis, Missouri, with one count of conspiracy to commit unlawful activities of dog fighting. The violation allegedly took place between November 18, 2008, and at least, April 18, 2009, in St. Clair County in Illinois.

If convicted, each defendant faces a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000.

Headed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Office of Inspector General, this dog fighting investigation is the latest in a series of major animal fighting investigations conducted throughout the country since the passage of the Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act, signed into law in May 2007, which makes it a felony to participate in the blood sport. Participating in the investigation were the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Humane Society of Missouri, U.S. Department of Agriculture - Office of Inspector General, and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jennifer Hudson and Michael Thompson.

COUNTERFEITING

On April 6, 2010, a federal grand jury returned an indictment against **KATRELL IRVIN**, age 27, and **CHARLIE LAWRENCE**, age 39, both of Chicago, Illinois.

IRVIN and **LAWRENCE** were each charged with possession of counterfeit obligations. **IRVIN** and **LAWRENCE** each faces a penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, or

both, and up to three years' supervised release.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Secret Service and Illinois State Police.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kevin F. Burke.

On April 6, 2010, a federal grand jury returned an indictment against **RAMON THOMAS**, age 33, of Belleville, Illinois.

THOMAS was charged with manufacturing counterfeit obligations, possession of counterfeit obligations, and passing counterfeit obligations. The indictment encompasses incidents alleged to have occurred on two separate occasions: November 2, 2009, and January 16, 2010. For each count, **THOMAS** faces a penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both, and up to three years' supervised release.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Secret Service, East St. Louis Police Department, and Sauget Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kevin F. Burke.

THEFT OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS

On March 15, 2010, **ALEXANDRA ROMANOV**, a/k/a "**Patricia M. Hoopes**," age 40, of West Frankfort, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois, for stealing \$240,899.94 from the U.S. government.

ROMANOV was sentenced to a term of 18 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release and was ordered to pay \$240,899.94 in restitution to the U.S. government and a special assessment of \$100, but a

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fine was waived in light of the ordered restitution.

ROMANOV had previously waived indictment by the grand jury and pled guilty to an information filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office charging her with one count of theft of government funds.

Evidence presented in support of the guilty plea and sentence showed that **ROMANOV's** father, who died in 1990, was a retired employee of the U.S. government and a federal annuitant of the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). **ROMANOV's** mother, who received survivor benefits from her husband's federal retirement, died in 1994. Thereafter, **ROMANOV** failed to notify the CSRS of her mother's death and continued to receive and cash her mother's survivor benefit checks by forging her mother's signature. **ROMANOV** did so until March 2007 when CSRS was notified by the Social Security Administration of **ROMANOV's** mother's death. Evidence further showed that **ROMANOV** provided false and forged information to the government during the time period that she was receiving the survivor benefit checks in order to make it appear that her mother was still alive.

The investigation was conducted by the Chicago office of the Office of Inspector General for the Office of Personnel Management.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.

FAILURE TO FILE FEDERAL TAX RETURNS

On March 18, 2010, **RONALD E. MANIS**, age 57, of Carbondale, Illinois, was indicted by a federal grand jury in a four-count indictment charging him with failure to file federal income tax re-

turns. Each charge carries a total maximum statutory penalty of up to one year imprisonment, one year supervised release, a fine of up to \$100,000, and restitution.

The indictment charges that **MANIS** was the sole proprietor of a tax preparation and accounting firm called Ronald E. Manis, C.P.A. and prepared approximately 1,500 to 2,000 tax returns for clients annually. The indictment further alleges that during the tax years 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006, **MANIS** received significant income for work done in preparing income tax returns, payroll tax returns, and sales tax returns for clients; however, he failed to file federal income tax returns.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.

TAX EVASION

On March 12, 2010, **JEFFREY L. HEINTZ**, age 56, of Godfrey, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, following his plea of guilty to a one-count information charging him with tax evasion.

HEINTZ was sentenced to five months' imprisonment, seven months' home confinement, 300 hours' community service, a \$100 special assessment, and a fine of \$30,000. The court also ordered restitution to the Internal Revenue Service in the amount of \$49,451, which was paid immediately following the sentencing hearing.

The violations occurred during the 2003 and 2004 tax years. The maximum penalties that can

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be imposed for this violation are five years' imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, three years' supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen B. Clark.

TAX EVASION/ELECTION OFFENSES

On April 8, 2010, **MICHAEL V. COLLINS**, age 45, of Swansea, Illinois, was arraigned on federal charges in a ten-count indictment charging him with three counts of tax evasion, three counts of failure to timely file tax returns, one count of bank fraud, and three counts of election fraud by providing false residence information in voting.

The offenses carry a total maximum statutory punishment of up to 63 years' imprisonment, up to three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$2,800,000.

The indictment alleges that **COLLINS** committed tax evasion and attempted to conceal his income by commingling business and personal assets; by failing to provide his correct social security number, by operating a business under a fictitious employer's identification number, through the submission of false certified payrolls which falsely reflected that his employees' federal income tax withholdings and FICA taxes were withheld and paid in, through the receipt and expenditure of cash, without record keeping, and through the failure to maintain accurate books and records.

The indictment further alleges that **COLLINS** knowingly and willfully gave false information as to his address for the purpose of establishing his

eligibility to vote in a voting district in East St. Louis in that he falsely represented that he lived at 22 Loisel in the city of East St. Louis when in fact he resided at 4382 Red Field Drive in Swansea, Illinois, and during that same period of time he was elected to be a precinct committeeman in East St. Louis when he was living in Swansea, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and U.S. Department of Labor - Office of Labor Racketeering.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.

FRAUD SCHEMES

On March 18, 2010, **MONICA M. OWENS**, age 40, **ROBBY L. OWENS**, age 40, both of Clayton, Missouri, and formerly of Fairview Heights, Illinois, and **GREAT KIDS, INC.**, an East St. Louis, Illinois, Day Care Center, were sentenced on various fraud charges in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis.

Documents filed as public record with the court indicate that **MONICA** and **ROBBY OWENS** are a married couple, who solely owned and operated **GREAT KIDS, INC.** The couple controlled all the business accounts. The couple also received all profits earned through **GREAT KIDS INC.** **MONICA** and **ROBBY OWENS**, however, attempted to evade or defeat the assessment of income taxes and failed to file for the year of 2005 by failing to file a return and failing to pay the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in income taxes. **MONICA OWENS** and **GREAT KIDS, INC.** further obtained payments by fraud by submitting false child care claims to the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), for child care of

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children who did not attend or were not present in the child care center. **MONICA OWENS** also falsely applied for food stamp benefits by denying that she was receiving a monthly household income from employment. All defendants pled guilty to the charges on September 18, 2009.

MONICA OWENS was sentenced for tax evasion, theft of federal program funds, and food stamp benefit fraud. The court ordered her to serve 25 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, pay criminal restitution to the IRS and DHS, and a \$300 special assessment.

ROBBY OWENS was sentenced on his conviction of tax evasion. The court ordered him to serve 25 months' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, pay criminal restitution to the IRS and DHS, and a \$100 special assessment.

GREAT KIDS, INC., was sentenced on its conviction for theft of federal program funds. The court placed the corporation on a term of five years' probation and ordered it to pay criminal restitution to the DHS.

The total court ordered restitution to be paid to the government program victims was: (1) \$203,057.86 to the DHS; and (2) \$249,197.00 to the IRS.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General; Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Office of the Inspector General, Bureau of Investigations; U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Inspector General - Investigations; Federal Bureau of Investigation; and Southern Illinois Bankruptcy Fraud Task Force.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Liam Coonan.

On March 18, 2010, **CONVENIENT CARE CLINIC, LLC, a/k/a "CONVENIENT HEALTH CARE CLINIC (CHC),"** of Perryville, Missouri, was sentenced on various fraud charges by the U.S. District Court in St. Louis, Missouri.

On March 30, 2010, **CHC's** former office manager, **LAURA ANN ELDER**, age 41, of St. Louis, who pled guilty to making false statements to a federal health care fraud program, on December 17, 2009, was also sentenced.

CHC pled guilty on December 10, 2009, to three fraud charges: (1) false statements to a federal health care program; (2) health care fraud; and (3) theft or embezzlement from an employee benefit plan. **CHC** improperly billed the federal and state government programs for physicians who were no longer employed by it and improperly billed labor union benefit funds.

CHC was sentenced to five years' probation and was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$17,678.13. A separate civil settlement in the amount of \$193,510.14 was reached with the government. **CHC** has paid all of the civil and criminal restitution.

Former office manager **ELDER** participated in the billing of the government programs for the physicians who were no longer employed by **CHC**. **ELDER** was sentenced to three years' probation.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Office of Inspector General and U.S. Department of Labor - Office of Inspector General, and Office of Labor Racketeering and Fraud Investigations. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois handled the cases following the recusal of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri.

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The criminal case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Liam Coonan and Michael J. Quinley. The civil case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nathan E. Wyatt.

MAIL FRAUD AND MONEY LAUNDERING

On April 8, 2010, **LAVERN HUELSMANN**, age 44, of Trenton, Illinois, entered pleas of guilty to a two-count indictment charging him with mail fraud and engaging in a financial transaction over \$10,000 from property derived from mail fraud.

The charges carry a maximum statutory penalty of up to 30 years' imprisonment, three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$500,000, and mandatory restitution.

Additionally, there is a forfeiture allegation in the indictment seeking \$1,935,500, which represents the value of criminally obtained proceeds. Sentencing has been scheduled for July 26, 2010, in the U.S. District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

HUELSMANN admitted the allegations in the indictment that he engaged in a fraudulent promissory note and Ponzi scheme that enticed elderly individuals residing in the Southern District of Illinois and elsewhere into paying over almost \$1,800,000 to him doing business as Senior Retirement Services. **HUELSMANN** used these commingled funds for his own personal use, to increase his personal wealth and possessions, to finish, decorate, and accessorize his residence located in Trenton, Illinois, to gamble, to finance his investments and cover his personal investments of margin calls, to finance miscellaneous business and personal expenses, and to make lulling payments to his clients.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and Illinois Securities Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD

On March 25, 2010, **Dr. SUKHDARSHAN S. BEDI**, age 56, of Energy, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois, on two counts of obstruction of justice; tampering with a witness; and illegal dispensation of controlled substances (Methadone).

BEDI was sentenced to 16 months' imprisonment to be served as eight months in the Bureau of Prisons and eight months on home confinement, three years' supervised release, and a \$400 special assessment. **BEDI** had previously pled guilty on November 4, 2009.

BEDI surrendered his medical license and withdrew his application for reinstatement of his DEA Registration.

ILLINOIS HEALTHCARE CLINIC, P.C. d/b/a Marion Family Health Care; **M-CFHC, INC.** d/b/a Harrisburg Family Healthcare; and **GALATIA MEDICAL CENTER CORP.**, corporations owned by **BEDI** that had also entered pleas of guilty on November 4, 2009, were each sentenced for conspiracy to illegally dispense a controlled substance and health care fraud. The court imposed a period of probation for one year and a special assessment of \$400 as to each of the corporations.

In addition to the other conditions of the sentences imposed, total restitution of \$49,014.82 was ordered paid to the Medicaid

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Program administered by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General; Drug Enforcement Administration; Federal Bureau of Investigation; Illinois State Police; Southern Illinois Enforcement Group; and Williamson County Sheriff's Office.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Michael J. Quinley and Liam Coonan.

INSURANCE FRAUD

On March 25, 2010, **RAYMOND L. LINZEE**, age 65, of DuQuoin, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois, to three years' probation, a \$5,000 fine, and was ordered to pay \$3,344 in restitution for committing one count of insurance fraud involving the use of the U.S. mail. **LINZEE** forfeited his insurance license as a result of this offense and ceased working in the insurance industry on January 1, 2008.

LINZEE pled guilty on August 28, 2008. Evidence presented in open court proved that **LINZEE** supported applications for workers' compensation insurance with a letter containing false assertions of fact for the purpose of inducing insurers to extend insurance coverage under false pretenses. The false assertions resulted in lower premiums being charged than would have been charged had the insurer received truthful information. The false assertions further resulted in insurance policies being issued that otherwise would have been denied.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Federal Bureau of In-

vestigation, and the National Insurance Crime Bureau.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Steven D. Weinhoeft and Michael J. Quinley.

LYING TO FEDERAL AGENTS

On March 15, 2010, **MICHAEL A. FLEMMINGS**, age 41, of Harrisburg, Illinois, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois, for making a material false statement to a federal agent. **FLEMMINGS** was sentenced to a term of 12 months' imprisonment and was ordered to pay a mandatory special assessment of \$100.

FLEMMINGS had previously been charged by a federal grand jury on April 22, 2009, with one count of making a false statement and pled guilty to that charge on November 3, 2009.

Evidence presented in support of the guilty plea and sentence showed that in March 2009 **FLEMMINGS** was acting as a confidential source for the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Illinois State Police in a drug investigation centered in Saline County. On March 25, 2009, **FLEMMINGS** knowingly lied to agents regarding the identity of an individual he met with on that date while working as a confidential source from whom he was to purchase cocaine. Through subsequent investigation, agents discovered that **FLEMMINGS** had lied to them. When confronted by the agents with evidence that he had lied, **FLEMMINGS** admitted to doing so.

After sentencing, **FLEMMINGS'** bond was revoked and he was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending designation to a correctional institution by the Federal Bureau

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

of Prisons.

The investigation was conducted by the Carmi office of the Southern Illinois Drug Task Force, Illinois State Police, and Drug Enforcement Administration.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.

THEFT OF MAIL BY POSTAL EMPLOYEE

On April 8, 2010, **HEATHER A. STOWERS**, a/k/a "**Heather A Winder**," age 34, of Tamaroa, Illinois, pled guilty to stealing and wrongfully removing with the intent to convert to her own use, the contents of a mail package which came into her possession for the purpose of being delivered by her as an employee of the U.S. Postal Service.

STOWERS faces a maximum potential sentence of five years' imprisonment, up to three years' supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

STOWERS was a U.S. Postal Service letter carrier in charge of delivering mail to customers residing in DuQuoin and Tamaroa, Illinois. She began her employment on April 12, 2008. Postal Service inspectors began their investigation after receiving complaints from customers on her route that they had not received packages which had been mailed to them. **STOWERS** admitted to inspectors that she had removed various items from the mail and had not delivered the packages.

As part of her plea, **STOWERS** has agreed to make full restitution in the amount of \$401.80 for items she removed from mail which were to have been delivered by her to eight different postal customers between April and August of

2009. Sentencing is scheduled for July 8, 2010, in the U.S. District Court in Benton, Illinois. **STOWERS** remains free on bond pending sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Postal Service.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael C. Carr.

April 2

United States: Good Friday, also called Holy Friday, Great Friday or Black Friday, is the Friday preceding Easter Sunday. According to Christian scripture, it commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his death at Golgotha.

Philippines: Terrorist Group Jemaah Islamiah (JI) explodes bomb on crowded passenger wharf, killing 16 and injuring 55. JI is a Southeast Asian militant Islamic organization dedicated to the establishment of an Islamic State in Southeast Asia. JI was added to the United Nations 1267 Committee's list of terrorist organizations linked to al-Qaeda or the Taliban. (2003)

Gaza: Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) official Muhammad 'Abd al-Il'al killed in Israeli rocket attack. (2001)

Italy: Terrorists exploded a bomb in passenger jet TWA Flight 840 as it flew from Rome to Athens. Four American citizens, a Colombian-born man, a Greek-American grandmother, her daughter, and her nine-month-old granddaughter, fell 15,000 feet after being sucked from the cabin through the nine-by-four foot hole blasted in the plane's side. The remaining 118 passengers survived. The Arab Revolutionary Cells claimed responsibility for the attack and said that it was in retaliation for American air attacks on Libya during the previous month's disagreement over whether foreign ships could use the Gulf of Sidra. The bombing of TWA Flight 840 occurred less than a year after Shi'a Muslim terrorists hijacked a plane flying from Athens to Rome. Investigators concluded that the bomb contained one pound of plastic explosive. It is suspected it had been placed under the seat cushion on a previous journey by a Lebanese woman (later arrested, never convicted) who worked for the Abu Nidal organization, which was opposed to the peace process. The Abu Nidal organization, formerly known as Black September, is a terrorist group founded by Carlos the Jackal. (1986)

April 3

France: Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Brigades assassinate Israeli Embassy political secretary. (1982)

April 4

United States: Easter Sunday is the central religious feast in the Christian liturgical year. According to Christian scripture, Jesus was resurrected from the dead on the third day after his crucifixion. Some Christians celebrate this resurrection on Easter Day or Easter Sunday.

Germany: A bomb exploded in a crowded discotheque in Berlin, Germany, killing two and injuring at least 200, including more than 40 Americans. American authorities in Berlin said the two dead were an American soldier and a Turkish woman. The disco is a favorite with American servicemen and many of those injured were soldiers. Libya responsible. (1986)

United States: Martin Luther King, Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. He was an American clergyman, activist, and prominent leader in the African-American civil rights movement. His main legacy was to secure progress on civil rights in the United States, and he is frequently referenced as a human rights icon today. He was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977 and Congressional Gold Medal in 2004; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was established as a U.S. national holiday in 1986. (1968)

April 5

Kuwait: Hizballah hijacks Kuwait Airways jet, killing two passengers; hijackers allowed to return to Algeria 16 days later. Hizballah (Party of God) was founded in 1982 after the Peace for Galilee War in Lebanon as an organizational body for Shiite fundamentalists. Much of this group's support comes from Iranian funds. (1988)

United States: Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed responsibility for setting fire to a store belonging to a man convicted of slaughtering and selling endangered tigers and leopards for rugs, trophies, and meat. (2003)

United States: Matthew Hale, World Church of the Creator (Pontifex Maximus) and former head of the National Socialist White American's Party, received the maximum sentence of 40 years for solicitation of homicide on a federal judge in Chicago, Illinois. (2005)

United States: Algerian Ahmed Ressam convicted for role in "Millennium Attack" on Los Angeles International Airport on December 31, 1999. (2001)

April 7

Israel: Suicide bomber strikes restaurant, killing 15 people and injuring more than 40; HAMAS claims responsibility. The group Hamas (the Islamic Resistance Movement) was formed to wage a jihad (holy war) for the liberation of Palestine. The group is best known for carrying out suicide bombings against civilian targets in Israel. (2002)

Greece: Rocket attack damages U.S. Citibank and other buildings. Terrorist group Revolutionary Organization 17 November, also known as "17 November" claims responsibility on April 9, 2001. (1998)

April 9

Tunisia: Martyrs Day

United States: An auto dealership in Santa Cruz, California, had 40 sport utility vehicles (SUVs) vandalized with anti-war and anti-oil statements to include "Killer," "I love slavery," and "ELF" – a reference to the Earth Liberation Front. Additionally, approximately 15-20 SUVs in a residential area of Santa Cruz were also vandalized with anti-war slogans. (2003)

April 10

Osama Bin Laden sent message to international Islamists to back Taliban and urged next generation to prepare for holy war. (2001)

Israel: HAMAS suicide bomber kills eight and wounds 22 in bus attack. (2002)

April 12

Israel: Suicide bomber kills six and injures 104 in Jerusalem; al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade responsible. (2002)

April 14

Israel: Holocaust Memorial Day (1949)

Libya: U.S. planes bomb Tripoli and Benghazi in retaliation for La Belle disco bombing. (1986)

April 16

United States: "The Virginia Tech massacre" was the single most deadly civilian gunfire incident in American higher education history. Thirty-two people were killed by gunman Seung-Hui Cho in two separate locations, about two hours apart. The remaining 30 people were shot in an attack lasting nine minutes; 25 others were injured. The gunman then took his own life. (2007)

April 17

Gaza Strip: Israelis kills HAMAS Gaza Strip leader Dr. 'Abd al-Aziz al-Rantisi. (2004)

April 18

Lebanon: Car bomb explodes in front of U.S. Embassy, killing 63 and wounding over 100; Hizballah responsible. (1983)

April 19

United States: End of 51-day Waco, Texas, siege. Fire destroyed the Branch Davidian ranch at Mount Carmel, killing 76 people including 21 children and two pregnant women, along with leader David Koresh. (1993)

United States: Patriots Day (1775)

United States: Execution of Richard Wayne Snell, a member of the radical white supremacist group The Covenant, The Sword, and the Arm of the Lord (known as the CSA) that was started in 1971 in the small community of Elijah, Arkansas, by polygamist James Ellison. Snell's downfall came in June 1984 when he killed a pawn shop owner he mistakenly believed was of Jewish descent. Shortly thereafter, he killed a black Arkansas State Trooper. Snell was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison for the murder of the state trooper and death of the pawn shop owner. Coincidentally, he was executed on the same day that Timothy McVeigh carried out the Oklahoma City bombing. (1995)

United States: Bombing of Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The attack claimed 168 lives and left over 800 injured. Until the September 11, 2001 attacks, it was the deadliest act of terrorism on U.S. soil. Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols were both arrested for their roles in the bombing. (1995). Timothy McVeigh was found guilty and executed on June 11, 2001.

Israel: Independence Day observed (lunar calendar)

April 20

Germany: Red Army Faction announces dissolution. (1998)

Adolph Hitler's birthday (1889) has become an annual celebration for white supremacist groups worldwide, specifically those subscribing to a neo-Nazi ideology. Events range from large assemblies to private house parties. Overt celebrations, such as rallies and marches, are typically open to the public. Covert celebrations such as house parties and memorial barbecues are usually reserved for members only. Invitations are often sent out via the internet and event locations are often kept secret in an effort to evade law enforcement detection. Both overt and covert celebrations serve as

platforms for recruitment. Last year, during the weekend preceding Hitler's birthday, the National Socialist Movement (NSM) honored its 35-year history within the U.S. by holding its national meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. The NSM opened the members-only national meeting to "all known white patriots" who wish to attend the event. Historically, the enemy of the white supremacist (neo-Nazi) movement have been Jews and all things pertaining to Judaism; however, with the recent economic downturn the movement now uses anti immigration issues for recruitment and propaganda rhetoric.

Japan: Chemical attack on Yokohama Subway by Aum Shinrikyo. (1995)

United States: Two senior students, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, ages 17 and 18, members of the Trench Coat Mafia, killed 12 students and one teacher, and injured 21 other students during a shooting rampage at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. The pair then committed suicide. The massacre occurred in an unincorporated area of Jefferson County, Colorado, near Denver and Littleton. It is the fourth-deadliest school massacre in U.S. history, after the 1927 Bath School disaster, 2007 Virginia Tech massacre, and the 1966 University of Texas massacre, and the deadliest for an American high school. The massacre provoked debate regarding gun control laws, the availability of firearms in the U.S., and gun violence involving youths. Much discussion also centered on the nature of high school clique, subcultures, and bullying, as well as the role of violent movies and video games in American society. The shooting also resulted in an increased emphasis on school security and a moral panic aimed at Goth culture, social outcasts, the gun culture, the use of pharmaceutical anti-depressants by teenagers, violent films and music, teenage internet use, and violent video games. (1999)

Canada: Four students and one staff member were stabbed by a teenage boy at a high school in Canada. This began at 11:21 a.m., the exact time the shooting started at Columbine High School. (2000)

April 21

Iraq: Suicide attackers detonate five car bombs in Basra, killing 73 and wounding 20. (2004)

Saudi Arabia: Unknown terrorist car-bombs Riyadh police headquarters, killing ten and wounding 125. (2004)

Israel: Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah)

April 22

United States: Earth Day: Possible demonstrations by environmentalists.

United States: The activist website www.Chicago.Indymedia.org posted a communiqué under the heading "Anarchist Sabotage in Chicago" that reported that the writers had attacked three targets. The first target was a three-sided sign promoting the 2016 Olympic Games, which Chicago is seeking to host. The second target the writers claimed to have attacked was a building owned by a capitalist landlord named Podmajersky whom they described as a major force in the gentrification of Pilsen. The third target of the evening was a Standard Bank. The communiqué ended with the statement, "Towards a Spring Social War." (2009)

Peru: Four-month hostage situation at Japanese Embassy ends with 17 dead, 71 freed; Terrorist group Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (Spanish: Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru, abbreviated MRTA) was a communist guerrilla revolutionary group active in Peru from the early 1980s to 1997 and one of the main actors in the internal conflict in Peru. (1997)

April 23

Philippines: Abu Sayyaf Group kidnaps 21, including ten foreign tourists. Abu Sayyaf, also known as al-Harakat al-Islamiyya, is one of several military Islamist separatist groups based in and around the southern Philippines, in Bangsamoro (Jolo, Basilan, and Zamboanga) where for almost 30 years various Muslim groups have been engaged in an insurgency for an independent province in the country. (2000)

United States: The Animal Liberation Press Office posted a communiqué from the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) in which the group claimed to have placed three "fake" bombs in a 20-story building. They then claimed to have placed calls to the security desk at the building, the property management company, and the main number of the law offices of Jim and Eric Lund, who occupy space in the building. The ALF Press Office reported that the fake bombs caused the Los Angeles Police Bomb Squad to evacuate the building, but no threat was found in the building. (2009)

April 24

Colombia: Landmine kills one U.S. Marine and wounds five others; Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) believed responsible. (2003)

Turkey: Kurdistan Workers' Party member jailed 12 years for planning suicide bombing. (2001)

Iran: Ill-fated secret U.S. military rescue mission, Operation Eagle Claw, to rescue American hostages held in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. Operation Eagle Claw was a U.S. joint military operation that attempted to rescue 52 Americans from the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran. The attempt was aborted when three helicopters that were part of the operation were damaged or forced to return to the carrier U.S.S. Nimitz by a sandstorm. As the U.S. force prepared to leave Iran, a refuelling accident led to the remaining helicopters and an Air Force C-130 Hercules refuelling aircraft being destroyed or left behind, and the deaths of eight American servicemen. The hostages were eventually released after 444 days. (1980)

April 25

India: Bomb explodes at courthouse, killing three and injuring 34 others. (2003)

Colombia: FARC kills more than 12 suspected United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) members. (2001)

United States: Security cameras at the Planned Parenthood Clinic of Collier County in Naples, Florida, showed four men using cement and superglue on the two front doors to the clinic in an effort to prevent entry to the building. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. (2009)

United States: A group of about 15 militants dressed in black broke more than a dozen windows at branches of the Wachovia and PNC Banks. The attackers also spray-painted the locations with graffiti, including "WB" (World Bank) and "IMF" (International Monetary Fund). Damages to the banks were in the range of \$110,000. The attackers also spray-painted vehicles parked across the street from the banks near a Whole Foods store. The attackers were apparently protesting against the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. The attackers were charged with felony counts of destruction of property and rioting—a charge brought because more than five people were involved in the incident. Later, approximately 150 people participated in a two-hour-long protest in Washington, D.C., against the spring meeting of the IMF and World Bank. These protesters attempted to push through law enforcement security lines near the World Bank headquarters. It was not immediately known if the individuals who attacked the bank buildings had any connection with the protesters.

April 26

Colombia: Government withdraws troops and allows the National Liberation Army (ELN) to claim territory. (2001)

United States: Matthew Hale, World Church of the Creator, found guilty (sentenced in 2005) for solicitation of homicide of a federal judge in Chicago, Illinois. (2004)

United States: National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 18–24). This year's theme, "Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect.," encourages us all to raise awareness about these foundational principles – and to continue striving to ensure that all crime victims are still treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

Russia: Chernobyl Disaster (1986)

Israel: Founding of Palestine Liberation Front (1977)

April 27

Greece: Anti-North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) bombing in the Intercontinental Hotel kills one and wounds one; revolutionary cells responsible. (1999)

April 28

Iraq: Saddam Hussein's Birthday (1937)

United States: Acquittal of Los Angeles Police Officers for Rodney King Case. Violent citywide riot ensued. (1992)

April 30

Israel: Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade suicide bomber attacks Tel Aviv pub, killing three Israelis and injuring 64 others, including one U.S. citizen. (2003)

Adolf Hitler commits suicide. (1945)

Vietnam: Fall of Saigon (1975)